Fog was general, however, for some distance east of the Kuril Islands on the 1st to 4th. It was only along the American coast that fog formed readily and frequently this month. Here between North Head and Point Arguello it formed on at least 12 to 15 days of the month. Off the west coast of Lower California it was reported on 7 days.

First nonstop flight across the Pacific.—On October 3 at 5.01 p. m. (E. S. T.) Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon, American flyers, took off in a plane from Samoshiro Beach, near Tokyo, Japan, and landed at Wenatchee, Wash., at 10.14 a. m. (E. S. T.) on October 5, after a flight of 41 hours and 13 minutes, covering a distance of 4,877 miles.

The start was made under good weather conditions, with an anticyclone overlying Japan on the 3d. Southeast of the Kuril Islands, on the 3d and 4th, some fog seems to have been the only hazard confronting the early part of the trip. The Aleutian LOW was comparatively shallow and not stormy, but rather, seems to have given favoring winds over much of the north-central part of the ocean. Fine anticyclonic weather prevailed for a long distance westward from the American coast on the 5th. The weather hardly could have been more favorable for such a trip in October.

BUCKET OBSERVATIONS OF SEA-SURFACE TEMPERATURES

By GILES SLOCUM

STRAITS OF FLORIDA AND CARIBBEAN SEA

Table 1 shows the average temperatures for the Caribbean Sea and the Straits of Florida for October of each year from 1919 to 1930, inclusive, and Table 2 summarizes the temperatures for October, 1930, in the same areas. The chart shows the number of observations taken in October, 1930, within each 1-degree square and mean temperature data for subdivisions of the area considered.

The surface waters of the Caribbean average nearly as warm in October as in the warmest month of the year, September. From a mean temperature at, or near, the yearly maximum, the water cools at a rate somewhat more pronounced than is the rise in its temperature during September, but still at so slow a rate that, throughout the month, the sea retains the high surface temperature characteristic of the summer season.

Autumn conditions, however, are in evidence in the region of the Florida Straits. The temperature drops with comparative rapidity, usually approaching, by the end of October, the yearly mean for the area, while throughout the month the straits are cooler than the Caribbean, a winter characteristic.

October, 1930, was cooler than the 11-year October mean in the straits, and warmer than the mean in the Caribbean for the eighth consecutive month of 1930, with all four quarters of the month warmer than the 11-year mean for either September or October.

TABLE 1.—*Mean sea-surface temperatures in the Caribbean Sea and the straits of Florida for October, 1919–1930*

Year	Caribbean Sea		Straits of Florida	
	Number of observations	Mean (° F.)	Number of observations	Mean (° F.)
1919 [1]	92	82.2	29	81.8
1920	132	82.0	39	79.9
1921	252	82.1	74	82.0
1922	248	82.4	90	81.6
1923	290	81.6	108	81.1
1924	286	82.6	112	80.6
1925	389	82.5	121	82.8
1926	453	83.0	180	82.0
1927	558	83.4	179	81.8
1928	550	82.6	160	82.3
1929	623	82.5	201	80.1
1930	627	82.9	177	81.2
Mean (1920–1930)		82.5		81.4

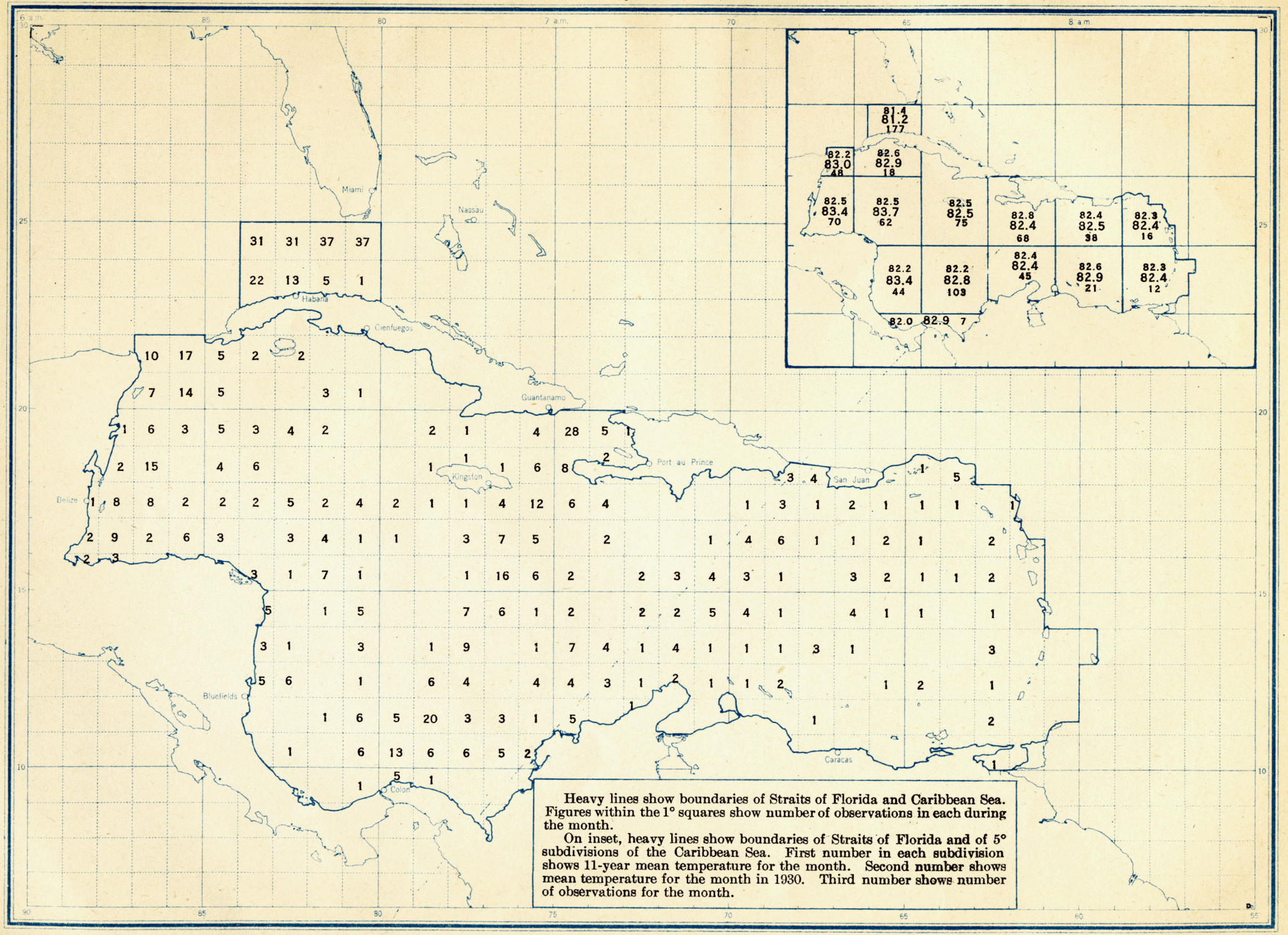
[1] Not used in computations because of insufficient data available.

TABLE 2.—*Mean sea-surface temperatures (°F.), and number of observations, October, 1930*

Quarter	Period	Caribbean Sea				Straits of Florida			
		Number of observations	Mean	Departure from 11-year mean (1920–1930)	Change from preceding month	Number of observations	Mean	Departure from 11-year mean (1920–1930)	Change from preceding month
			°F.	°F.	°F.		°F.	°F.	°F.
I	Oct. 1–7	152	82.8			41	82.2		
II	Oct. 8–15	172	82.8			43	81.5		
III	Oct. 16–23	148	83.1			49	81.3		
IV	Oct. 24–31	155	82.8			44	79.6		
Month		627	82.9	+0.4	−0.1	177	81.2	−0.2	−2.3

Distribution of Greenwich Mean Noon Bucket Observations of Sea-Surface Temperatures, October, 1930

(Plotted by Giles Slocum)



Heavy lines show boundaries of Straits of Florida and Caribbean Sea. Figures within the 1° squares show number of observations in each during the month.

On inset, heavy lines show boundaries of Straits of Florida and of 5° subdivisions of the Caribbean Sea. First number in each subdivision shows 11-year mean temperature for the month. Second number shows mean temperature for the month in 1930. Third number shows number of observations for the month.